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8 Attorneys for Respondent GEORGE E. BARICH

9 CITY OF COTATI,

10 Petitioner,

11 vs.

12 GEORGE E. BARICH,

13 Respondent.

**DECLARATION OF BRADEN EGGERT
IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO
REOPEN CASE FOR ADDITIONAL,
NEWLY DISCOVERED EVIDENCE**

Hearing Officer: Hon. Gary Weiner

Hearing Date: TBD

Time: TBD

Location: TBD

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17 I, Braden Eggert, declare:

18 1. I am a resident of Portland, Oregon. I have no permanent mailing address at
19 present, but my e-mail address is codeenforce707@gmail.com, and my mobile telephone
20 number is (707) 956-9656. I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth in this
21 declaration. If called upon to testify, I could do so competently and could and would testify
22 to the matters set forth herein.
23

24 2. I was recently provided with an e-mail from Robert A. Smith ("Mr. Smith") in
25 which he says he fears me because I threatened him and his daughter. I would like to
26 address that allegation. I have never threatened anyone.
27
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1 3. On or about April, 2019, I was employed by Mr. Smith and the City of Sonoma,
2 working out of the Sonoma Police Station at 175 1st Street West. During my early
3 employment I worked in normal code enforcement, parking enforcement, special events,
4 special investigations, and short-term rental enforcement. On or about July 2019, I was also
5 at the City of Cotati working part-time under Mr. Smith's direction conducting patrols to
6 monitor code enforcement areas of concern.
7

8 4. On or around early 2020, the City of Cotati directed an inspection of the private
9 sewer lateral connected to the property owned by Mr. George E. Barich (Mr. Barich),
10 following internal reports and communications referencing "health, life and safety" concerns
11 for alleged sewage in recreational vehicles / 5th wheels. The alleged basis for this action
12 was the suspicion that Mr. Barich had installed or was operating an unauthorized or illegal
13 sewer lateral connection into the municipal sewer main.
14

15 5. The decision to proceed with the inspection was made during a closed-door
16 meeting attended by City Manager Damien O'Bid, Community Development Director Noah
17 Housh, and other senior City personnel. According to internal accounts, concerns were
18 raised that Mr. Barich's lateral may have bypassed municipal permitting procedures or was
19 configured in a manner that posed a potential threat to public health or sanitation
20 infrastructure.
21

22 6. Rather than handling the matter directly through City public works personnel, the
23 City retained and directed a third-party private vendor to perform the inspection and
24 investigation. This vendor was instructed to access and examine the sewer lateral connected
25 to Mr. Barich's property, assess its configuration, and report any irregularities or violations
26 of City code. The decision to engage a private contractor—rather than utilize City
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1 employees—appears to have been made without clear justification or public notice, raising
2 questions about transparency and procedural integrity. This was done secretly. Notably, Mr.
3 Barich was not formally cited for any code violation as a result of the inspection, nor were
4 any hazardous conditions or unlawful connections publicly confirmed.

5
6 7. On or about June 1, 2021, I stopped working for Mr. Smith due to his not
7 addressing my safety concerns after I had been threatened by private citizens on the job, and
8 his offering but not providing full-time work.

9
10 8. On or about March 2022, Mr. Smith contacted me regarding employment
11 opportunities. He claimed to have secured several municipal contracts. Upon rejoining his
12 operations, I discovered a staggering backlog of unprocessed code enforcement cases, some
13 dating back nearly two years, despite the fact that billing for those services had continued
14 uninterrupted. This included systemic neglect of public complaints.

15
16 9. On or around July 4, 2023, I began working more closely with Mr. Smith on
17 matters related to the City of Cotati, particularly the case involving Mr. Barich. I was
18 directed to interview citizens and a real estate broker and to gather documentation
19 portraying Mr. Barich as a “nuisance.”

20
21 10. At multiple meetings, City officials, including staff and legal counsel, openly
22 discussed in my presence a desire to impose over \$250,000 in fines through code
23 enforcement efforts directed at Mr. Barich and others who had vehicles or possessions at the
24 Barich residence. These fines were not to be based on any proportional or escalated safety
25 hazard. Mr. Smith, in our conversation about this effort, stated, “Yeah, this is targeted
26 enforcement—who cares. I think \$100,000 will change his mind!”
27
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1 11. When I questioned these practices or attempted to apply fair and neutral
2 standards, I encountered internal resistance and was warned by Mr. Smith not to "interfere"
3 in the handling of Mr. Barich's case. Over time, my role was limited, my input disregarded,
4 and I was ultimately pushed out of certain operations.

5
6 12. On March 14, 2024, I was asked to investigate the many complaints filed by Mr.
7 Barich. After mapping, documenting, and analyzing those complaints, I identified serious
8 potential violations, but Mr. Smith and Mr. Housh indicated that they weren't going to
9 follow up on them.

10 13. As the City of Cotati escalated its enforcement campaign against Mr. Barich, I
11 was directed by Mr. Smith and municipal officials to begin work on a handful of additional
12 code enforcement cases. These newly assigned cases were hastily compiled, often involving
13 minor or previously dormant violations, and lacked any meaningful urgency compared to
14 the level of scrutiny imposed on Mr. Barich. I was given some prior reports and citizen
15 complaints, but little evidencing safety concerns for these addresses. In many cases, I was
16 instructed to issue citations for matters that would normally warrant only an informal notice
17 or no action at all.
18

19
20 14. The timing and substance of these assignments made their purpose obvious:

21 • They were initiated only after Mr. Barich began filing formal complaints and
22 seeking public attention.

23
24 • I was instructed to issue citations in a geographically dispersed manner, to create
25 the appearance of even-handed enforcement across the City.

26 15. I raised concerns with Mr. Smith about this approach, noting that such selective
27 fabrication of cases was not only unethical but could be construed as fraudulent government
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1 conduct and misuse of public resources. My objections were dismissed or ignored, and I was
2 told by Mr. Smith to "just document it and move on."

3 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the
4 foregoing is true and correct.

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7 Dated: June 13, 2025

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BRADEN EGGERT

1 Braden Lee Eggert
No Fixed Address
2 Phone Number (707) 956 - 9656
Email: codeenfore707@gmail.com
3

4 BRADEN LEE EGGERT, IN PRO PER
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7 **SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**
8 **FOR THE COUNTY OF SONOMA**
9

10 MICHAEL CALLAN,

11 Petitioner(s),

12 vs.

13 BRADEN LEE EGGERT a/k/a BRADEN
14 EGGERT,

15 Respondent.
16
17
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) Case No.: 25-CV-01414
)

) **DECLARATION OF BRADEN EGGERT**
)

) **DATE:** April 22, 2025

) **TIME:** 1:30 p.m.

) **LOCATION:** 600 Administrative Dr
Santa Rosa, CA 95403
)

) **Judge:** Honorable David Kim

) **Dept:** 11

) **Petition Filed:** March 14, 2025

) **Trial Date:** (Unassigned)
)

19 I, Braden Lee Eggert a/k/a **Braden Eggert**, do declare and say:
20

21 **I am an individual merely ACCUSED and PRESUMED INNOCENT**

22 **1.** I haven't read or seen the pleadings or exhibits submitted in support of Michael Callan Petition
23 for a TRO or Civil Harassment Restraining Order and make this declaration in response thereto

24 **based on my Litigation notes, Audit videos, Audit photos, and Public Records request.**

25 **2.** The document(s) prepared by the Cotati Police Department, County of Sonoma Sheriff's Office,
26 Town of Windsor Police Department, Michael Callan, and Branden Heffelfinger, through my
27 Public Records Request received, notes my alleged past statements and emails and attempts to
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1 paint me as someone who celebrates violence, is confrontational, is harassing, and stalks. The
2 reality of the situation and my beliefs and actions are actually completely contrary to that
3 notion. In fact, my interest in working within City government in the first place is grounded
4 primarily in my desire to do what I can to decrease and combat harm in all of its forms,
5 citywide, statewide, and federally.
6

7 3. I noticed a disturbing pattern of government abuse carried out under the direction and legal
8 authority of **Robert Allan Smith**, which includes Prosecutorial Abuse and Code Enforcement
9 Misconduct by Robert Allan Smith who has served as both a **code enforcement officer,**
10 **prosecuting attorney, and statutory schemer** for various municipalities in Sonoma County,
11 California and beyond. His trifecta role—coupled with a lack of oversight—has allowed him to
12 consolidate unchecked power, enabling gross violations of civil liberties and rights, financial
13 mismanagement, and unethical conduct that undermine the legitimacy of local governance.
14

15 4. On March 14, 2025, I received mail regarding the status of a complaint I had made against
16 Michael Callan and Cotati Police Department that was sent to a previous address of mine. The
17 current resident opened the envelope and forwarded a picture of the complaint closure notice to
18 me. I had not previously received confirmation or notification that the complaint had been
19 closed, and it was sent to my old address that I haven't been at for over a year.
20

21 5. On or about June 1, 2023, I [REDACTED] news agencies to work with
22 independent journalists to collect evidence and further address civil rights, human rights, and
23 corruption occurring within Sonoma County, local communities, and local law enforcement. I
24 own and operate various [REDACTED]

25 6. On or about July 4, 2023 I began working with Robert Allan Smith more closely on City of
26 Cotati matters, specifically the George Barich case whereas I was sent to interview, work with
27 citizens to create more documentation of the “nuisance” Barich was to his community for
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1 standing up to local government, exposing corruption, and hold his community leaders
2 accountable. Further, I was expected to work tirelessly and endlessly to discredit Barich which I
3 couldn't and wouldn't do because there was nothing concerning about his conduct as he was
4 following his rights and constitutional protections. It's my understanding the City leaders and
5 City Council, Cotati Police, Robert Smith and Community Development Director Housh were
6 attempting to stir up the community by misinforming the public by making Barich a bad man
7 and bully. That which I never observed... just someone expressing themselves in a peaceful and
8 thoughtful way.
9

10 7. On or about March 14, 2024, I was supposed to cover the City's tracks by investigating all of
11 George Barich's complaints he had filed, after fielding all the complaints through mapping,
12 documentation, and investigation I discovered a concerning trend that the City was targeting
13 Barich because he was "embarrassing City leaders", "exposing corruption", and "creating public
14 discord". The City and Robert Smith were content on "shutting Barich up, depriving him of his
15 property and resources, depriving him of civil rights and liberties." Also, making him persona
16 no grata, much like Cotati Police Department and Sonoma Sheriffs are doing to me now, Even
17 though I live multiple states away. Further, the City and Robert Smith enticed citizens to
18 retaliate against Mr. Barich, despise him, hate him, and generally encourage opposition to Mr.
19 Barich's stance on anything. Mr. Smith himself started a campaign against Barich revolving
20 around Mr. Barich love for karaoke, helping the homeless population, homeless women, and
21 alleged cocaine usage.
22

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24 8. This wasn't about code enforcement but about politically silencing opposing voices of citizens
25 and creating a chilling effect on Barich to deprive him of his first amendment rights. Bob Smith
26 stated he and the city were trying to get Mr. Barich to move out of Cotati and cease his freedom
27 of speech through the code enforcement prosecution and code enforcement case. Further, Robert
28

1 Smith's meeting and friendly relations with local Superior Court Judge(s) such as Patrick
2 Broderick, whom would discuss Barich's case and defame him.

3 9. While moving in early August of 2024, I observed the same individual in the picture of the
4 email between me and the Windsor Police Department driving the same vehicle I reported in my
5 report following me on the highway between Vacaville, CA and Corning, CA.

6
7 10. It appears Michael Callan and Branden Heffelfinger was aware of my staying at my [REDACTED]
8 house in Red Bluff and my staying at my friends' and my place at [REDACTED] RV Park in Red
9 Bluff per his declaration of service in 24-FL-01085. Also, given his dad running and
10 ownership of Wine Country Investigations, Pacific Coastal Patrol, Redwood Pacific Services,
11 Redwood Pacific Services, Style N' Comfort Limousine, A Touch Of Class Limousine, A-1
12 Chauffeured Transportation, Lap Of Luxury Limousine, A Perfect Memory Limousine. Further,
13 extra help employment as a Deputy Sherriff within Sacramento County Sheriff's office since
14 2012 and major support for Sonoma County Sheriff's Department. Further, his family has lived
15 in Sonoma County at least since 1964.

16
17 11. I would say this was more likely than not Heffelfinger's or Duckart's doing. This would be a
18 violation of Penal Code §646.9 because they were "willfully, maliciously, and repeatedly
19 follows or willfully and maliciously harasses another person and who makes a credible threat
20 with the intent to place that person in reasonable fear for his or her safety, or the safety of his or
21 her immediate family is guilty of the crime of stalking." Further, harassment per Penal Code
22 §653.2. This conduct served no legitimate purpose other than to "seriously alarming, seriously
23 annoying, seriously tormenting, or seriously terrorizing the person."

24
25 12. On November 14, 2024, Brandon Heffelfinger contacted me in regard to serving legal papers. I
26 had never received any contact before that as he states in his declaration of service in 24FL-
27 01085. That in of itself shows he perjured himself and lied to the courts. His behavior was rude,
28